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All persons are by nature free and independent, and have certain natural and unalienable rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

-- Article 1, Section 1, New Jersey State Constitution

"Murder at the Malls"

"In order to assist in our efforts to provide a safe, secure and pleasant shopping environment, we ask your cooperation with the following [11 rules, posted at Trolley Square Mall entrances in Utah]: [Rule] 10. No weapons allowed on Trolley Square property."

I [John Lott] have been arguing this point for years, but here is one reason why police officers should be allowed to carry concealed handguns when they are off-duty. Fortunately, the off-duty officer [who stopped the Trolley Square Mall attack Feb. 12, 2007] ignored the "no guns allowed" sign. The killer apparently also ignored the sign.

--johnrlott.tripod.com/2007/02/off-duty-officer-with-concealed-handgun.html

Media Fails to Reveal Mall's Gun-Free Zone Status

By John Lott

The horrible tragedy at the Westroads Mall in Omaha, Neb. received a lot of attention [Dec. 5, 2007]. It should have. Eight people were killed, and five were wounded.

A Google news search using the phrase "Omaha Mall Shooting" finds an incredible 2,794 news stories worldwide for the last day. From India and Taiwan to Britain and Austria, there are probably few people in the world who haven't heard about this tragedy.

But despite the massive news coverage, none of the media coverage, at least by 10 a.m. [Dec. 6], mentioned this central fact: Yet another attack occurred in a gun-free zone.

The same was true for the attack at the Trolley Square Mall in Utah in February (a copy of the sign at the mall can be seen here). But again the media coverage ignored this fact. Possibly the ban there was even more noteworthy because the off-duty police officer who stopped the attack

fortunately violated the ban by taking his gun in with him when he went shopping.

Yet even then, the officer "was at the opposite end and on a different floor of the convoluted Trolley Square complex when the shooting began. By the time he became aware of the shooting and managed to track down and confront Talovic [the killer], three minutes had elapsed."

There are plenty of cases every year where permit holders stop what would have been multiple victim shootings, but they rarely receive any news coverage. Take a case this year in Memphis, where WBIR-TV reported a gunman started "firing a pistol beside a busy city street" and was stopped by two permit holders before anyone was harmed.

When will part of the media coverage on these multiple-victim public shootings be whether guns were banned where the attack occurred? While the media has begun to cover whether teachers can have guns at school or the almost 8,000 college students across the country who protested gun-free zones on their campuses, the media haven't started checking what are the rules where these attacks occur.

Few know that Dylan Klebold, one of the two Columbine killers, closely was following Colorado legislation that would have allowed citizens to carry a concealed handgun. Klebold strongly opposed the legislation and openly talked about it.

No wonder, as the bill being debated would have allowed permitted guns to be carried on school property. It is quite a coincidence that he attacked the Columbine High School the very day the legislature was scheduled to vote on the bill.

Despite the lack of news coverage, people are beginning to notice what research has shown for years: Multiple-victim public shootings keep occurring in places where guns already are banned. Forty states have broad right-to-carry laws, but even within these states it is the "gun-free zones," not other public places, where the attacks happen.

People know the list: Virginia Tech saw 32 murdered earlier this year; the Columbine High School shooting left 13 murdered in 1999; Luby's Cafeteria in Killeen, Texas, had 23 who were fatally shot by a deranged man in 1991; and a McDonald's in Southern California had 21 people shot dead by an unemployed security guard in 1984.

All these attacks — indeed, all attacks involving more than a small number of people being killed — happened in gun-free zones.

In recent years, similar attacks have occurred across the world, including in Australia, France, Germany and Britain. Do all these countries lack enough gun-control laws? Hardly. The reverse is more accurate.

The law-abiding, not criminals, are obeying the rules. Disarming the victims simply means that the killers have less to fear. As Wednesday's attack demonstrated yet again, police are important, but they almost always arrive at the crime scene after the crime has occurred.

The longer it takes for someone to arrive on the scene with a gun, the more people who will be harmed by such an attack.

Most people understand that guns deter criminals. If a killer were stalking your family, would you feel safer putting a sign out front announcing, "This Home Is a Gun-Free Zone"? But

that is what the Westroads Mall did.
--FoxNews.com Opinion Dec. 6, 200

The Right to Stop Killers

By Cal Thomas

For years we have witnessed the carnage when innocents were mowed down at schools, colleges, shopping malls and post offices. The unarmed (disarmed?) were easy targets for crazed gunmen.

Now someone has shot back, probably saving many lives. All of the gun-control laws could not have had the affect of one armed, trained and law-abiding citizen like Jeanne Assam, a volunteer security guard at the New Life Church in Colorado Springs.

The gunman, Mathew Murray, had been expelled from the Youth With a Mission (YWAM) organization. Authorities say Murray vowed revenge in several Web postings, which copied abundantly from the manifesto written by Columbine High School killer Eric Harris before the 1999 school massacre.

In rants laced with profanity, Murray lashed out against Christians. He wrote that Christians "are to blame for most of the problems in the world."

Assam is a former Minneapolis police officer who is licensed to carry a concealed weapon. She said she had been praying about what to do with her life and had volunteered to help with security at the 10,000-member church. She said, "I wasn't going to wait for him to do other damage. I knew what I had to do."

The El Paso County Coroner's Office has since determined that Murray died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound. But it doesn't matter.

With at least five guns, all that ammunition and more weapons in the car, according to police, Assam's presence stopped Murray from killing and wounding more people inside the church, which appeared to be his intent.

The point is that gun laws will not deter criminals and police can't be everywhere they're needed. But killers can be stopped by law-abiding citizens with guns. ***As the Supreme Court considers its ruling on whether the strict gun laws in the District of Columbia are constitutional, it might remember Jeanne Assam and her courageous, proper and for now legal response to a lawless act. Though four were killed at the two locations and several others wounded, many more owe their lives to Assam, who should be the new poster woman for***

those who wish to preserve the right to keep and bear arms.
-- Sacramento Bee, Dec. 17, 2007

Sharia Law, Part II

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) --

Sudan charged a British teacher with inciting racial hatred after she allowed her [mostly 7-year old] students to name a teddy bear Muhammad in a class project.

Gillian Gibbons, of the private Unity High School in Khartoum, was arrested after one of her pupils' parents complained, accusing her of naming the bear after Islam's chief prophet.

Under article 125 of the Sudanese legal code which is based on Islamic law [Sharia law], Gibbons, if convicted, faces six months in prison, a fine or flogging of up to 40 lashes.

Although Khartoum officials said it was an isolated incident, Sudan's top clerics said that the full measure of the law should be applied against Gibbons, calling the incident part of a broader Western "plot" against Islam.

Gibbons was sentenced to 15 days in prison and deportation.

Thousands of Sudanese, many armed with clubs and knives demanded the execution of [Gibbons], saying, "No tolerance: Execution," and "Kill her, kill her by firing squad."

Protesters dismissed Gibbons' claims that she didn't mean to insult the prophet.

"It is a premeditated action, and this unbeliever thinks that she can fool us?" said Yassin Mubarak, a young dreadlocked man swathed in green and carrying a sword. "What she did requires her life to be taken."

-- AP, Nov. 27 & 28 & 30, 2007

Ed.: Sharia Law Part I told of a Saudi rape victim sentenced to 200 lashes for being alone with a man not related to her. Radical Muslims plan to impose Sharia law on the entire world.

The Freedom Documents

Compiled by Chuck Baldwin

A few years ago, I sadly discovered that it was next to impossible to find our nation's great historic documents together in one volume, so we decided to fix that problem. It took us a full year to research and compile over 50 of our country's greatest historical documents, but we did it!

Now you can have these great documents at your fingertips in one beautifully bound, easy to read format. This compilation includes the documents that gave birth to the

greatest free nation on earth. We call this magnificent collection THE FREEDOM DOCUMENTS.

Included in this remarkable volume are The Mayflower Compact, The First Thanksgiving Proclamation, the complete text of Patrick Henry's immortal "Give Me Liberty, or Give Me Death" speech, The Declaration of the Causes and Necessity of Taking up Arms, The Northwest Ordinance of 1787, George Washington's Farewell Address, and so on.

We have also included several letters written between John and Abigail Adams as well as letters written by General Robert E. Lee. Do you remember the poem about Paul Revere's ride? Well, it, too, is included. Also included is the letter written from within the Alamo by William Barret Travis to the people of Texas. Of course, the Declaration of Independence, U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights are also there.

This giant compilation includes more than 50 documents, over 170 full-sized pages complete with a spiral ring binding for easy copying, and a professionally designed color cover. This volume is must-reading for every American patriot!

For the price of a couple of pizzas, you can have the great documents of American history delivered to your door.

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Fallacy: Guilt by Association

The fallacy of Guilt by Association is the attempt to condemn one party by claiming an association with another party.

The use of this failure of logical reasoning is an admission that no better argument exists. Such desperation is actually a commendation. "A drowning man will grab at a straw."

If a logical argument existed then that logical argument would be presented, as opposed to resorting to the Logical Fallacy of Guilt by Association.

The Fallacy of Guilt by Association is actually an ad hominem [an appeal to interest, prejudice or emotion rather than reason] which is

In the beginning of change the patriot is a scarce man, brave, hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, however, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot. -- Mark Twain

stretched to include a second party, who is alleged to have an association with the first party.

In some cases the alleged association might be false. In some cases the alleged guilt of the first party might be false. Of course the ad hominem is a logical fallacy itself.

The fact that the fallacy of Guilt by Association is used as an attempt to condemn one party by claiming an association with another party usually indicates that there is no ACTUAL guilt in the party being falsely maligned. Otherwise the actual guilt of the party being maligned, BY ASSOCIATION, would have been stated, as opposed to attempting to "stretch" the guilt over from another party.

Ed.: so what does the logical fallacy - guilt by association - have to do with the militia?

The modern militia movement began in response to the lethal federal attack on the Weaver family and the Branch Davidians – survivalists, gun nuts and religious fanatics in the eyes of the media. Fallacious reasoning led to the conclusion that anyone defending the victims is also guilty by association – especially any group that believes in the right to keep and bear arms, as does the militia. The irony is that the Weavers and Davidians had a right to be left alone and certainly not be done to death. Any alleged crime by an individual (Randy Weaver, for selling sawed-off shotguns to an ATF informant; Koresh for firearms violations) could have been handled peacefully. Yet guilt by association condemned the militia, who (peacefully) rose to their defense.

Hoover Had Plan for Mass Arrests

WASHINGTON (AP) - FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover had a plan to suspend the rules against illegal detention and arrest up to 12,000 Americans he suspected of being disloyal.

Hoover sent his plan to the White House on July 7, 1950, less than two weeks after the Korean War began. But there is no evidence to suggest that President Truman or any subsequent president approved any part of Hoover's proposal to house suspect Americans in military and federal prisons.

Hoover had wanted Truman to declare the mass arrests necessary to "protect the country against treason, espionage and sabotage," *The New York Times* reported.

The plan called for the FBI to apprehend all potentially dangerous individuals whose names were on a list Hoover had been compiling for years. "The index now contains approximately twelve thousand individuals, of which approximately ninety-seven percent are citizens of the United States," Hoover wrote in the now-declassified document. "In order to make effective these apprehensions, the proclamation suspends the writ of habeas corpus."

Habeas corpus is the right to seek relief from illegal detention, and is a bedrock legal principle.

All apprehended individuals eventually would have had the right to a hearing under Hoover's plan, but hearing boards comprised of one judge and two citizens would not have been bound by the rules of evidence.

The details of Hoover's plan was among a collection of Cold War-era documents related to intelligence issues from 1950-1955. The State Department declassified the documents on Friday.

-- AP, December 22, 2007

FBI Prepares Biometric Database

Clarksburg, West Virginia - The FBI is embarking on a \$1 billion effort to build the world's largest computer database of peoples' physical characteristics, a project that would give the government unprecedented abilities to identify individuals.

Digital images of faces, fingerprints and palm patterns are already flowing into FBI systems. Next month, the FBI intends to award a 10-year contract that would significantly expand the amount and kinds of biometric information it receives.

"Bigger. Faster. Better. That's the bottom line," said Thomas E. Bush III, assistant director of the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services Division, which operates the database from its headquarters in the Appalachian foothills.

The increasing use of biometrics for identification is raising questions about the ability of Americans to avoid unwanted scrutiny. Critics worry that people's bodies will become de facto national identification cards.

If successful, the system, called Next Generation Identification, will collect a wide variety of biometric information in one place for identification and forensic purposes.

In an underground facility the size of two football fields, a request reaches an FBI server every second, comparing digital fingerprints against the

FBI's database of 55 million sets of electronic fingerprints. A possible match is made - or ruled out- as many as 100,000 times a day.

Soon, the FBI server will also compare palm prints and, eventually, iris images and face-shape data such as the shape of an earlobe. If all goes as planned, a police officer making a traffic stop or a border agent at an airport could run a 10-fingerprint check on a suspect and within seconds know if the person is on a database of the most wanted criminals and terrorists. Intelligence agents could exchange biometric information worldwide.

Advocates say bringing together information from a wide variety of sources and making it available to multiple agencies increases the chances to catch criminals. There are 900,000 federal, state and local law enforcement officers who can query the fingerprint database today, they said.

Researchers are working on capturing images of people's irises at distances of up to 15 feet, and of faces from as far away as 200 yards.

Skeptics say that such projects are proceeding before there is evidence that they reliably match suspects against a huge database.

In the world's first large-scale, scientific study on how well face recognition works in a crowd, the German government found that the technology, while promising, was not yet effective enough to allow its use by police. The study was conducted from October 2006 through January at a train station in Mainz which draws 23,000 passengers daily. The technology was able to match travelers' faces against a database of volunteers more than 60 percent of the time during the day, but the rate fell to 10 to 20 percent at night.

Marc Rotenberg, executive director of the Electronic Privacy Information Center, said the ability to share data across systems is problematic. "You're giving the federal government access to an extraordinary amount of information linked to biometric identifiers that is becoming increasingly inaccurate," he said.

In 2004, EPIC objected to the FBI's exemption of the National Crime Information Center database from the Privacy Act requirement that records be accurate. The group noted that the Bureau of Justice Statistics in 2001 found that information in the system was "not fully reliable" and that files "may be incomplete or inaccurate." FBI officials justified that exemption by claiming that in law enforcement data collection, "it is impossible to determine in advance

what information is accurate, relevant, timely and complete."

Privacy advocates worry about the ability of people to correct false information. "Unlike say, a credit card number, biometric data is forever," said Paul Saffo, a Silicon Valley technology forecaster. He said he feared that the FBI, whose computer technology record has been marred by expensive failures, could not guarantee the data's security. "If someone steals and spoofs your iris image, you can't just get a new eyeball," Saffo said.

--Washington Post, December 22, 2007

Government Paranoia

By Brent Johnson

In his brilliant essay, *Common Sense*, Revolutionary Founding Father Thomas Paine wrote, "government at its best (i.e. when it is doing everything right and nothing wrong), is a necessary evil."

In other words if, like me, you view government from the Thomas Paine school of thought, then governments - all governments - are inherently evil. This means that government is never your friend and only your ally when its own evil objectives benefit from the alliance.

Couple this characterization of government with the growing paranoia being displayed by governments around the world, and what you get is a very chilling image of the future!

In case you do not see clearly the danger, I will provide you with just two recent examples that have crossed my desk.

In Orlando, Florida, an Orange County anti-crime unit will patrol city streets while carrying automatic submachine guns. The city has ordered 40 of these weapons of war. Officially, they are needed to fight the well-armed criminals selling drugs.

Meanwhile, in London, England, streets were closed and Soho's theater district and night life were disrupted when Thai Cottage restaurant was cordoned off on suspicion of being the source of a chemical outbreak. The Fire Brigade was called along with a Hazardous Response Team. Firefighters dressed in special protective suits smashed down the doors only to discover the source of the chemical smell... chef Chalemachai Tangjariyapoon's fiery signature nam prik pao chili sauce!

These are not isolated examples of government paranoia. Rather, they represent a growing trend toward an obsessive drive for security at

all costs, even at the cost of personal and social freedom and privacy.

Furthermore, these paranoid reactions by government agencies have a side effect; they result in large numbers of officials shoving people out of the way, brandishing military firearms, and generally going around bullying the ordinary citizenry, and always in the name of solving some immediate crisis or emergency.

Many governments today are stoking the fires of demonization of Muslims. Oh, they are all quick to say that they only target "extremists" and not the general Muslim population. But what exactly is an "extremist", according to these same governments?

Today, extremists are considered to be people who resort to violence to achieve their political objectives.

However, by this definition Patriots like Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry and the like were extremists, because they believed that violent Revolution was necessary to preserve their God-given rights.

What makes today's oppressed any different? Why should we accept the credo that violence against an intractable, criminal government is unacceptable and anyone who advocates violence is an extremist who must be destroyed by any means whatsoever?

I suppose that the more I see the problem, the greater the extent to which it appears to affect the people of the world. I see untrustworthy, evil governments using their respective "fear of terrorism" to justify draconian measures that restrict the free exercise of the God-given rights of the very people they govern. I see those same governments fanning the flames of paranoia among the general population in order to establish public support for their Gestapo-like, Stalinist measures. I see military soldiers in the streets of our cities and towns as if it was ordinary, serving to normalize the militarization of our country. I see police-state tactics employed on an unsuspecting and ignorant population.

I see a war being waged by governments against their own people, a war on freedom.

Perhaps it is time for the people to develop their own sense of paranoia. Ordinary people need to become obsessive and paranoid about losing their freedoms, and take appropriate steps to protect and preserve them. Because two things are certain... we have legitimate reasons to be paranoid and if we continue to do

nothing, there will be nothing left of our freedom.

When the State Dwarfs the People

"[A] State which dwarfs its men, in order that they may be more docile instruments in its hands even for beneficial purposes, will find that with small men no great thing can really be accomplished; and that the perfection of machinery to which it has sacrificed everything, will in the end avail it nothing, for want of the vital power which, in order that the machine might work more smoothly, it has preferred to banish." -- John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*

Government is about coercion.

Limiting government is the single most important instrument for guaranteeing liberty. We're working on a third generation which has little in the way of education about what our Constitution means and why it was written. Thus, we've fallen easy prey to charlatans, quacks, and hustlers. -- Dr. Walter Williams

"Inconvenient unTruths"

In addition to the Nobel Prize former Vice President Al Gore has won an Oscar for his work on "An Inconvenient Truth," which proclaims the validity of man-made global warming and advocates urgent action.

However British High Court judge Michael Burton has concluded Gore's documentary should be shown in British schools only with guidance notes to prevent political indoctrination. The decision followed a lawsuit by a father, Stewart Dimmock, who claimed the film contained "serious scientific inaccuracies, political propaganda and sentimental mush."

The Nobel panel honored Gore and a UN agency for their efforts to spread awareness of "man-made climate change."

But the British court pointed to 11 inaccuracies in the production:

"The truth, as inconvenient as it is to Al Gore, is that his so-called documentary contained critical distortions that are quite contrary to the principles of good documentary journalism," Newman said. "Good documentaries should be factually correct. Clearly this documentary is not."

The court ruled the Guidance Notes to Teachers must make clear that:

*The film is a political work and promotes only one side of the argument.

*If teachers present the film without making this plain they may be in breach of section 406 of the Education Act 1996 and guilty of political indoctrination.

*Eleven inaccuracies have to be specifically drawn to the attention of school children.

The inaccuracies, according to the court, include:

- The film claims that melting snows on Mount Kilimanjaro evidence global warming. The Government's expert was forced to concede that this is not correct.

- The film suggests that evidence from ice cores proves that rising CO2 causes temperature increases over 650,000 years. The court found that the film was misleading: Over that period the rises in CO2 lagged behind the temperature rises by 800-2000 years.

- The film uses emotive images of Hurricane Katrina and suggests that this has been caused by global warming. The Government's expert had to accept that it was "not possible" to attribute one-off events to global warming.

- The film shows the drying up of Lake Chad and claims that this was caused by global warming. The Government's expert had to accept that this was not the case.

- The film claims that a study showed that polar bears had drowned due to disappearing arctic ice. It turned out that Mr. Gore had misread the study: In fact four polar bears drowned, and this was because of a particularly violent storm.

- And others.

-- WorldNetDaily, Dec. 21, 2007

Life on the Southern Border

San Diego - Border Patrol agents are firing tear gas and powerful pepper-spray weapons into Mexico to repel an increasing number of attacks by assailants hurling stones, bottles and bricks.

The Border Patrol said its agents had been attacked 987 times along the border during the 12-month period that ended Sept. 30. That was up 31 percent over the previous year and was the highest number since the agency began recording attacks in the late 1990s.

The agency's top official in San Diego, Mike Fisher, said agents were taking action because they often wait hours for Mexican officers, who, he said, usually never arrive.

In October, agents in California and Arizona received compressed-air guns that shoot pepper-spray canisters

more than 200 feet. (Agents already had less powerful launchers, which lose their punch after about 30 feet.) Border Patrol SWAT teams along the 1,952-mile border are also equipped with tear gas, "flash bombs" that emit blinding light and "sting ball" grenades that disperse hundreds of tiny rubber pellets.

U.S. officials say the new tactics may spare lives. In March, an agent shot and killed a 20-year-old Mexican man whose arm was cocked.

U.S. officials say the violence indicates that smugglers are growing more desperate as increased security makes it harder to sneak across the border. The assailants try to distract agents long enough to let people dash into the U.S.

The leader of a union representing Border Patrol employees said the violence also resulted from a decision to put agents right up against the border, a departure from the early 1990s, when they waited farther back to make arrests.

-- AP, December 18, 2007

NAFTA Superhighway: "Keep on lyin'"

A *Newsweek* story [www.newsweek.com/id/73372] critical of Rep. Ron Paul and labeling the NAFTA Superhighway a baseless conspiracy theory has generated approximately 250 adverse reader responses on the "comments" section of *Newsweek's* website.

"There is a broad coalition of Americans developing across the U.S. who are opposed to a North American Union and know that Ron Paul is right and we need to take action now before it is too late," Jesse Benton, national press secretary for the Ron Paul Presidential Campaign 08 told WND.

Particularly interesting among *Newsweek's* reader comments were citations of Canadian government websites that openly discuss and declare plans to create a NAFTA Superhighway.

Several readers pointed to an Internet video clip of a Nov. 20 speech in which John Harvard, lieutenant-governor of the Province of Manitoba, Canada, opened the second session of the 39th assembly of the provincial legislature.

"Manitoba is also taking a major role in the development of a Mid-Continent Trade Corridor, connecting our northern Port of Churchill with trade markets throughout the central United States and Mexico," Harvard told the legislature.

"To advance the concept," Harvard continued, "an alliance has been built with business leaders and state and city governments spanning the entire length of the Corridor. When fully developed, the trade route will incorporate an 'inland port' in Winnipeg with pre-clearance for international shipping."

A video posted on YouTube shows excerpts from Harvard's speech juxtaposed with clips of President Bush and Canada's Prime Minister Stephen Harper at the press conference of the third summit of the Security and Prosperity Partnership in Montebello, Quebec, on Aug. 21, in which they ridicule the North American Union and the NAFTA Superhighway as baseless conspiracy theories.

The Canadian government's Canada Transport website describes the Mid-Continent International Trade Corridor as a rail and highway network which stretches from Manitoba to Mexico.

The government of Alberta, Canada, has posted on its website a trade corridor map that shows a NAFTA Superhighway that includes Interstate Highways 35, 29 and 94, the same routes North America's SuperCorridor Coalition, or NASCO designates as the I-35 NAFTA Superhighway.

"Well, now, Mr. Paul might think he has some real fodder," writes Craig Offman of the *National Post*. "The Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation website uses the exact phrase, showing a thoroughfare that begins in Manitoba and drops all the way down to West Texas."

"Why would the Canadian government web page in Alberta show a NAFTA Superhighway if the highway doesn't exist?" asks a *Newsweek* reader linking to the Alberta site. "Keep on lying to the people, *Newsweek*, it is what you do best."

-- WorldNetDaily, Dec. 8, 2007

Bipartisan Treachery – 1993

On November 20, 1993, with only three senators on the floor of the U.S. Senate the unconstitutional Brady Handgun Violence Prevention bill was passed.

You heard right, Congress decided that the Second Amendment does not mean what it says ("... shall not be infringed") and passed the Brady bill.

Had any one of the three senators objected they would have been unable to act. The Senate needs a quorum to conduct business, and a single objection would have ended the

charade of three Senators acting for the whole body. The "gang of three" were Majority Leader George Mitchell (D-ME), Minority Leader Bob Dole (R-KS) and Senator John Warner (R-VA).

The other 97 senators were busy heading home for Thanksgiving.

The National Rifle Association was not concerned. "Please realize that NRA acquiesced in passage of the Brady Bill only after we achieved a number of amendments to the bill, the most significant of which is a provision exempting holders of concealed weapons permits (among others) from the federal waiting period." -- Letter by Robert C. Nagle, NRA's Research and Information office, on behalf of NRA President Wayne LaPierre, March 13, 1994

Senator Dole admitted, "I sat there with the majority leader [Sen. George Mitchell] and everybody else had gone home, and we made an arrangement. We let that [Brady] bill pass." -- August 23, 1994, p. S12363, *Congressional Record*

-- www.gunowners.org/news/nws9402

Family Successfully Stands on Fourth Amendment

When the Gregory family (name changed to protect their privacy) in Las Vegas received an unexpected visit from a social worker, they turned to the Home School Legal Defense Association for help.

Pursuant to HSLDA's advice, the family said "no" when the social worker requested to inspect the family's home and interview their children. The family discovered they had been accused of educational and medical neglect.

HSLDF Senior Counsel Chris Klicka. wrote a letter assuring the social worker that the allegations were bogus, and that the family was not neglecting their children, but in fact, were providing better than average care and a homeschool education pursuant to the new law. Klicka also had Mrs. Gregory send the worker several references from friends, as well as a letter from their doctor indicating that the children were

receiving proper medical attention.

Klicka made it clear that the family wished to avoid unnecessary trauma and would decline any requests to enter their home and interview their children.

After hearing from HSLDA, the social worker called the family and said she was closing the investigation, saying she was "just trying to help"!

Contact: Home School Legal Defense Association, P.O. Box 3000, Purcellville, Virginia 20134

Phone: (540) 338-5600, Web: www.hslda.org

-- Thomas M. Dutkiewicz, www.connecticutDCFwatch.com, Nov. 28, 2007

"10 Most Wanted Corrupt Politicians" of 2007

Washington, DC --Judicial Watch, the public interest group that investigates and prosecutes government corruption, today released its 2007 list of Washington's "Ten Most Wanted Corrupt Politicians." The list, in alphabetical order, includes:

1. Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY): In addition to her long and sordid ethics record, Senator Clinton has blocked the release of her official White House records. Many suspect these records contain a treasure trove of information related to her role in a number of serious Clinton-era scandals.

2. Rep. John Conyers (D-MI) for reportedly forcing his staff to serve as his personal servants, babysitters, valets and campaign workers while on the government payroll.

3. Senator Larry Craig (R-ID): Senator Craig was caught by police attempting to solicit sex in a Minneapolis International Airport men's bathroom. Craig refused to resign from the Senate.

4. Senator Diane Feinstein (D-CA) for reviewing government contracts, some of which were ultimately awarded to URS Corporation and Perini, companies then owned by Feinstein's husband, Richard Blum.

5. Former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani (R-NY) for billing city

agencies for tens of thousands of dollars in security expenses during his extramarital relationship with future wife Judith Nathan. ABC News reported that Giuliani provided Nathan with a police vehicle and a city driver.

6. Governor Mike Huckabee (R-AR): According to The Associated Press: "[Huckabee's] career has also been colored by 14 ethics complaints and a volley of questions about his integrity, ranging from his management of campaign cash to his use of a nonprofit organization to subsidize his income."

7. I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby: Libby, former Chief of Staff to Vice President Dick Cheney, was sentenced to 30 months in prison and fined \$250,000 for lying and obstructing the Valerie Plame CIA leak investigation.

8. Senator Barack Obama (D-IL): A "Dishonorable Mention" last year, in 2007 it was reported that Obama purchased stock in companies whose major investors were his biggest campaign contributors. One of the companies benefited from legislation Obama pushed after the senator purchased the company's shares.

9. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-CA): House Speaker Pelosi snuck a \$25 million gift to her husband, Paul Pelosi, in a \$15 billion Water Resources Development Act. The project involved renovating ports in Speaker Pelosi's home base of San Francisco. Pelosi owns apartment buildings near the areas targeted for improvement.

10. Senator Harry Reid (D-NV): Senate Majority Leader Reid has helped a developer, Havey Whittemore, clear obstacles for a real estate deal. *The L.A. Times* reported, "Reid received tens of thousands of dollars in campaign contributions from Whittemore." Whittemore hired Reid's son Leif and gave the junior Reid the responsibility of negotiating the real estate deal with federal officials.

-- Judicial Watch, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, neither supports nor opposes candidates for public office. For more information, visit www.judicialwatch.org.

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